G. R. S. IX-5]

Previous references.

LR 64-92

1893-94

(LR)

Later references.

File No. 89

Serial Nos. 1-11

GENERAL AND REVENUE SECRETARIAT.

Serial Nos. 1-11

Major ~~Part~~ B for December 93

SUBJECT.

Report on the measures adopted to prevent Smuggling of Supari in the Sea

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Countermarked

W D 88—GPB—50,000—24-7-16

Indexed 11/12

Series A 92
89-93
No
Serial No

CHIEF SECY.'S DEPT.

Submitted to the Rev. Council Dewan.

For Akers -

In Gen Misc 1987-94
RA 254-92
& 22 May 1893.

Deputies of Distts round Shimoga were requested to submit reports on various points connected with the Mohammedan of Nayan Habit, such as

1 How it is effected
2 Whether the Nayadi Cash garden is Estimated every year
3 Whether removals of Nut are covered by Rubrandums
4 Rates of allowance for domestic use
5 Est. produce per acre
6 Whether garden owners are regularly accounted for & if so the Est. produce & quantity on which duty is paid.

No Deputy Gr. has as there

These replies are very important. Get them printed & send one or two copies — Shorp.

attended to 2 copies submitted. 8/12 16/12

U.C. 19/11/93

To be under Secy.

Rev. Deptt.

Draft submitted for Secretaries approval 20/11/93.

Please attend to this at back

It wd be well to print the Cir: calling for the info and below it the replies. Replies and such unimportant papers are not necessary.

The replies from Bangalore & Mysore are not in this file. If they have not yet been received urgent reminders 20/11/93

[illegible] 25 copies

Bangalore & Mysore
Rds have sent
up their replies —
They are herewith
forwd —
The Dy C of Tumkur
alone furnishes the
details & supports his

Rev Mrs

29/7

(General Serial No. 30.)

GOVERNMENT OF MYSORE 1893.

1213.

31 JUL 93

R 334.

From

The Deputy Commissioner
Kadur District

To

The Chief Secretary to the Dewan
of Mysore.

Section LR

File No 59-93

Serial No 1

Dated 27th

Despatched 27th July.

Received

Enclosures No. nil

General No. 54 / No. 1893-94

With reference to Reminder docket No. 1077-83 / R.7.254-92 of 19th instant, requesting the early submission of a further report as to the measures adopted to prevent smuggling of Supari, has the honor to state that the time given in the original Proceedings No. 1989-904 / R.7.254 of 22d. May 1893 was before the

M. G. C. P. Bangalore.—27-1-93.—5,000.

30th September 1893, whereas the reminder now presses for an early report; and to request to be kindly informed if the time given in the 1st Proceedings may not be adhered to with a view to get necessary details which have not yet been received.

H H Sparkes
Deputy Commissioner
Kaduna Dt.

Ans

(General Serial No. 30.) 1476

1893-94 R388

From The Dy Commissioner Bangalore District (40)

To

The Chief Secretary to the Dewan of Mysore.

Dated 3rd August 1893.

Despatched

Received

Enclosures No.

General No.

19 No. 133.

The Chief Secretary's No. 1077-83 / 254-92 dated 19th Ultimo, requesting an early reply to the Government Proceedings No. 19897-904 / 254 dated 22nd May last calling for further report as to the measures to be adopted to prevent smuggling of Supari.

In reply, begs to state that the necessary

M. G. C. P. Bangalore.—27-1-93.—5,000.

information is called for from the Subor- -dinate Officers and a report will be sub- -mitted before the due date i.e. 30th September 1893.

In Remarks
For Dy Commissioner.

WW

(General Serial No. 30.)

1893. 1533

From The Deputy Commissioner Chitaldroog District

To Government

The Chief Secretary to the ~~Durbar~~ of Mysore.

Dated 4th August 1893.

Despatched

Received

Enclosures No.

General No. 91
No. 72

Government Proceedings No. 19097/904 dated 22nd May 1893 and reminder No. 1077-86/254-92 dated 19th Ultimo.

Has the honour to state that information is being collected in order to enable a report being submitted to Government before the 30th September 1893 which is the date fixed in the Proceedings quoted above.

Deputy Commissioner
Chitaldroog

Per ? Mysore 7/8

I want to send by a runner who will return to-morrow

Submitted

Reminder received for this

Section A&L
File No. 59-93
Serial No. 3

Issue 11/8

No. 139.

Tumkur District

Deputy Commissioner's Office

Dy No: 2213 Dated, Tumkur 15th August 1893.

No. R 565 / R 59-93

The Chief Secretary to the
Government of Mysore

Sir,

With reference to para 2 of Government Order No: 19897-904 R.F. 254-92 of the 22nd May 1893 calling for a report on the mode of collecting the halat duty on areca nut and the yield of the nut per acre, I have the honor to report as follows:-

2. Firstly in regard to the collection of the duty. In about the month of September in each year the harvest of the areca gardens begins. The ripe bunches of areca are plucked off, the fruits are thereafter separated from the bunches and in the end nut is prepared. This harvest ordinarily Continues to the end of December and in Exceptional years Extends over January too.

3. Just before the harvest season, the Sayer Officials of the Hobly inspect every areca — garden, estimate the probable yield of arecanut for the year and prepare a Register of such estimate for each garden in each village. This

Rejister will be kept by the Potail for his future reference.

4. Before plucking the bunches of the areca-nuts the owner of the garden informs the Potail of his village of his intention to do so and asks for a permit therefor. The Potail issues a permit in a printed form (a sample of which is enclosed) warning the gardener at the same time that he should not remove the produce from the garden before it is actually measured by him (the Potail).

5. On the authority of this permit the gardener plucks the areca bunches and after separating the fruits from them sends information to the Potail to come and measure the fruits. The Potail goes to the garden, measures the fruits by Kandies, estimates thereby the probable yield of the nut, and after entering all these details in the permit already given gives leave to the gardener to prepare the nut and return the permit after the prepared nut is finally weighed and a regular Patta issued in its stead.

6. Finally when the nut is prepared it is once more weighed by the Potail and the Sayar officials and the total quantity of the actual yield is entered in a patta which is given over to the gardener and the original permit taken back from him.

7. A Rejister called the Kulavar Daftar

book shewing the quantity of the nut with each gardener is kept with the village Potail and a Copy thereof in the Taluk Cutcharry. In it the quantity arrived at as above is added to the balance at the end of the previous year, and then the quantity allowed for home Consumption during the year is deducted, the gardener being accountable for the duty on the nut balance.

8. Duty at the rate of 12 annas per maund (with local cess at one anna per Rupee of duty) is levied as the nut is sold by the Ryot and the quantity sold is deducted in the said Rejister. This duty is generally paid by the purchaser. The stock on hand is examined now and then and the gardener made accountable for the duty on the quantity found wanting according to the Rejister.

9. For the house hold Consumption of the gardeners 3 maunds her year per 10 head are on average said to be a fair allowance, but on account of marriages and such other Celebrations in the family the allowance has to be raised according to circumstances. The average Consumption besides varies according to the habits of the garden owners. The Vakkaliga is generally habituated to chew betel leaves and nut oftener in a day than the

Brahmin or the Vyaya. Such habits are also considered in allowing the quantity for house hold consumption. Years without celebrations of marriages &c. are generally scarce in the families of native gardiners. Hence the average allowance for home consumption comes to 5 maunds a year per 10 head.

10. Secondly with regard to the average yield of the nut per acre. Generally on one acre of land about 400 areca trees are planted. If all of them are good, young, healthy bearing trees, the yield may be good. But there are various circumstances which influence the yield such as :-
(a) the fertility or otherwise of the soil,
(b) the average rainfall during the year,
(c) the healthy condition of the trees,
(d) the number of actually bearing trees,
(e) the industrious and careful habit of the gardener, (f) the source of irrigation, and
(g) the aptitude of the local people for garden cultivation and their resources.

11. The fertility of the soil depends upon its constituents. Red soil mixed with lime stone is believed to be the best suited for the growth of the areca trees as the stem will there be thick, the branches spreading and the bunches more numerous and fuller than elsewhere. The average yield per acre of such land with full blown trees may be about 40 maunds. In sandy soil

the trees are thin and tall and the bunches lesp in number and the fruits small. There the yield per acre is lesp and may be about 25 maunds per acre if all the trees are in bearing. In saltish and clayey soils the trees will be stunted, and there the average yield is still lesp and may be about 15 maunds per acre if all the trees are bearing. Heavy rainfall soon after the ~~opening of the~~ blossom (i.e. after the opening of the flower known as Hombale') causes the tender grains to fall down, and similarly Contemnous rain makes the soil retain too much moisture and thereby causes the tender fruits to fall down. Thus, for the areca trees rainfall will have to be both timely and moderate. This Condition is believed to affect the yield to a very great extent. Again the disease known as the "Kole roga" often attacks the tree and thus damages the crop. A land on a good level getting moist when irrigated and gradually drying of itself is believed to be the one best suited for areca gardens. If there be too much moisture on the surface at any one time or if the land be always moist, the trees will not be healthy. Besides, whatever may be the area of an areca garden the produce depends upon the number of the actually fruit bearing trees in it rather than on the total number of them. And even among the

bearing trees the yield varies according to their age. Again during the dire famine of 1876-77, and 1877-78 most of the areca trees died and several gardens were considerably denuded of them. This circumstance also influences the average yield per acre at present. Speaking roughly it may be said that on an average the proportion of fruit bearing trees in the gardens of this District is much less than in the Malnad which was less affected during the said famine. Further the yield of the areca crop depends as above stated upon the care bestowed upon the garden. If the digging, manuring, and weeding operations are carried on at the proper seasons the garden improves and if these be neglected the yield will be less as a matter of course. People in this District take to dry cultivation first, then to wet crop and lastly to garden cultivation; the latter requiring greater industry and a steady source of irrigation which the maidan ryot often lacks in. Trees irrigated by tank and well water yield better crop than those irrigated by either of the two. Again a garden of purely areca trees yields more than if the trees are interspersed with plantain or other trees. Plantain trees are generally planted amidst areca trees in this

District and they by their nature absorb larger quantity of moisture, deprive the soil of its productive materials and take up the manure sooner for their growth and leave a small portion of it for the areca trees. As the areca produce is to be had only once in a year and the ryot has to find other means of Constant yield in his garden, he plants plantain trees in it. Considering all these circumstance it is believed that an an average 15 maunds per acre is a fair return here.

12. Thirdly in regard to the apprehension that the nut is smuggled to evade the payment of the duty. Of course the persons concerned would try their best to avoid the duty but the quantity entered against them in the Registers referred to has to be accounted for by them. This makes the evasion difficult and if the higher Officers occasionally look into this matter their subs taking the cue from them will take stock now and then and bring the defaulter to book. The Amildars have been requested to shew earnestness in this matter.

13. Lastly in regard to the comparison made in the order under reply of the realizations from this halat duty in the different Districts, I beg leave to state that the data on which Comparison has been made and inference drawn do not

to my humble thinking seem to be such as to afford a true basis therefor. The income of only one year (1890-91) has been taken and an average struck on the total area supposed to be covered with the areca trees. It does not I think happen that the whole of the produce of a year is sold in that year, nor does every acre containing the areca trees yield every year. In some of the gardens the trees may be young and immature, while in others they may be old and past bearing. Some gardeners may find a good sale and dispose of the whole of the stock, while others may retain the stock on hand in expectation of getting better rates.

14 In Conclusion I beg leave to submit that this Halat duty is a considerable nuisance to the ryot. It affords ample opportunity to worry him in various ways and in fact unscrupulous persons may even turn this taxation into an engine of oppression. The sooner therefore it is done away with the better I think. If the present land tax on the areca gardens is considered an inadequate return to Government and if the Halat duty which is levied in addition thereto should be replaced it is by far better to enhance the land tax proportionately and relieve the ryot of the constant vexations & interference of the Government Servants with his harvest operations, secondly

with his dealings with his Customers & thirdly with his stock on hand.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient Servant

[signature]
Deputy Commissioner
Lunkiu District

15

Deputy Commissioner's office
GOVERNMENT OF MYSORE Hassan district

No. 142
Gen 3.

Dy no: 2416
R 612
Dated Hassan 19th August 1893.

From.

M. L. Purnaiya Esquire
LR 59-93
Deputy Commissioner
Hassan district

To

The Chief Secretary to the
Government of Mysore
Bangalore

Sir,

With reference to Government Proceedings
No 19897-904 / R. F. 254-92 of the 22nd May last, calling for further
report on certain points in connection with Sunpara
and as to the measures adopted to prevent smuggling
I have the honor to state with reference to the queries
contained in para 2 as follows:—

(1) The Halat duty is now collected through
the agency of Patels, Shanbhogues and Shikdars.

(2) The produce of each garden is Estimated
annually by the Patel of Each Village and Kulwa
chits are granted for all produce removed from
the garden and the owners of gardens are called
upon to account for the difference between the
Estimates

Estimated produce and the actual quantity on which duty is collected ~~[illegible]~~ in the Nagar division. This practice did not exist in this district and with a view to introduce it Circular orders were issued to all the Amildars and most of them have submitted Dasturan Patties. It cannot however be stated that those patties are quite in accordance with the order issued and steps are taken to gradually enforce the system though Complete success cannot be hoped for, for want of proper Establishment as referred to below. There is no fixed rate according to which allowance is made for domestic use, the quantity allowed depending upon the number of household members of the Supari growers and their general requirements. The average quantity that has been allowed till now amounts to about 32 per cent of the quantity produced. The Estimated produce for Each acre varies from one Maund and two Seers to three Maunds and thirteen Seers.

2. From the Enclosed Statement it will be observed that the Supari duty during the last Six years has been fluctuating, there is a decrease for two years, then an increase for next two years and again a decrease. Due Notice was taken of these variations and the fact also mentioned in the administration Reports of the respective years, Extracts from which are Enclosed for

ready

ready reference.

3. I watched to see what was possible to be done by warning the Village officials and Shaikdars to a sense of their duty in this respect. A few of the copies of circular orders issued from time to time and also of orders issued reviewing the Sayer monthly accounts received from the Talukas are also forwarded herewith for your information, from which you will be pleased to observe that persevering efforts are being made to secure the Government Revenue in this direction though there was improvement for some time it has a tendency to go down and I suspect that the Village officers connive at Smuggling and Shaikdars have not sufficient time to devote to this. I think the Revenue under this source admits of greater expansion under proper supervision. to effect which it would be better if there was a separate agency as in the districts of Shimoga, Kadur and Tumkur.

I have the honor to be
Sir,
Your most obedient Servant
[signature]
Deputy Commissioner
Hassan District

× × × ×

× × × ×

Extract from the Administration Report for the year 1887-88.

Sayar. The falling off in the Revenue under this head in the several Talukas of the district alike was a matter for serious consideration though it may have been partly due to diminished crop. The Taluk authorities have been enjoined to pay stricter attention to prevent all smuggling by constant supervision and check of Rahadaris issued and returned.

× × × ×

do do for the year 1888-89.

Sayer. The increase in this item of Rs 228-3-8. is not so satisfactory as was anticipated. In spite of repeated orders issued to the Taluka authorities enjoining on them the necessity of bestowing stricter attention to prevent smuggling the Amildars of Hassan and Arkulgud

Taluks have not been successful in putting it down. The increase in the duty on Supari in the Arsikere Taluk is creditable to the Amildar. The remaining Taluks do not produce Supari largely. The other items which only contribute a portion to the Sayer Revenue need no Special Commant here.

× × × ×

do — do — for the year 1889-90 Sayer. The increase of Rs 794 under this head is chiefly due to Supari in which Rs 722 in round figures were realized more than in the previous year. Though the result of the year appears to be an improvement owing to the active measures adopted in making the Amildars alive against Smuggling yet there is much Evasion in payment of duty which has to be effectually checked.

× × × ×

do — do — for the year 1891-92. Sayer. The Revenue from Sayer has decreased during the year under report as compared with the previous year by Rs 679-4-3. It is Satisfactory to note that in the Taluk of Arkulgud the Sayer Revenue has increased over

the year previous which shows that the Taluk authorities guarded against smuggling. In other Taluks no improvements is visible and needful steps will be taken to foster the source of Revenue.

The fall in Sayer Revenue is not an indication of any short areca crop. But the Establishment for the levy of the sayer and for prevention of smuggling does not Separately exist in this district and the work in this Department of Patels and Shabhogues shows results only as they are steadily goaded to be alert and active. The figures for 1887-88. Rs 3038-4-7. 1888-89 Rs 3266-83 1889-90 Rs 4061-5-1 and 1890-91 5506-13-11 given below show better results than in this year. It is desirable to make more satisfactory arrangements to prevent loss of Revenue under this head. The matter will be laid Separately before Government in due Course.

× × × ×

'Extract'

Deputy Commissioner
Hassan district

Statement shewing the area of Supari Plantation together with the amount of duty realized for the Six years Ending 1891-92. of the Hassan District

Sl. No.	Years	Extent of Supari Plantation		Duty realized			Duty per acre			Remarks
		Acres	Guntas	Rs	A	P	Rs	A	P.	
	1886-87	5331	32	2678	9	8	"	8	"	
	1887-88.	5322	14	2271	3	1	"	6	9	
3.	1888-89	5320	4	2246	1	6	"	6	9	
4.	1889-90	5326	11	2961	5	11	"	8	10	
5	1890-91	5312	17	4254	"	5	"	12	9	
6	1891-92	5334	28	3345	7	11	"	10	"	

19th August 1893.

J. Murray

Deputy Commissioner
Hassan District

ಮಾಲಿಯದರಲ್ಲಿ ತೆಕ್ಕೆಲ್ಲಿಯಿಂದ ಬಂದ ಮನುಷ್ಯನು ಬೆಳಿಗ್ಗೆ
ತೆಂಗಿನಕಾಯಿ ದಕ್ಷಿಣೆಯನ್ನು ಕೊಟ್ಟಾಗ ಅಂದರೆ ಅಂಥ ಪತ್ರಿಕೆಯಲ್ಲಿ
ಮಿಕ್ಕಂತೆ ಪ್ರಾಣಿಗಳನ್ನು ಹೊರಡಿಸುವ ಪದ್ಧತಿಗೆ ಬೇಕಾಗಿರುವ ಪ್ರಾಣಿಗಳು
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1287

No. 182/155 Dy No: 3200 Deputy Commissioner's Office
Chitaldroog District
R 79 Dated Chitaldroog 5th September 1893.

dR 59-93
26

To
The Chief Secretary to the
Government of Mysore
Bangalore.

Sir,

With reference to the Proceedings of Government No. 19897-904 dated 22nd May last, calling for a report on certain points relating to the prevention of Supari smuggling, I have the honour to state that from the enquiries which I have personally instituted during my tours of inspection as well as from the reports which I have received from the Amildars and Deputy Amildars under me, I am inclined to believe that Supari smuggling on any extensive scale is not carried on in this District.

2. The modus operandi in all the Taluks of this District is this:- As soon as the crop is ripe for gathering, the owner of the garden does intimation of this fact to the Potail. In some places the

the Potail submits a report to the Shikdar, or to the Valook Cutcherry, while in others he does not. On the day fixed for harvesting the crop, the Potail goes to the garden, sometimes accompanied by the Shikdar, or a Valook Official, and at other times alone. If Supari has to be cut simultaneously in more gardens than one, (this happens very rarely) the Potail visits them one after another, or deputes his subordinate Village servants to such of them as he cannot himself visit. After the nut is gathered, it is measured in a basket kept for the purpose, and the capacity of which is recognized by all concerned. The proportion of prepared Supari to the quantity of produce gathered, has likewise been ascertained by actual test. The produce realized is accordingly entered in a book kept by the Potail. A Kulawari Chit is issued to the ryot before the removal of the crop from his garden. From the total quantity, is deducted, an allowance for domestic use at varying rates, none of which exceeds five Seers

per

per head. The cost is entered against the pyots name and he becomes accountable for it. On sales and exports, duty is levied at 12 annas a maund The distance in the pyots profession is accordingly checked by the Yaloot Authorities.

3. Where the procedure described above is strictly followed, the chances of successful Smuggling are reduced to a minimum. It is possible that some laxity does exist in remote places and that consequently facilities for allowing Opium to pass without payment of duty are greater there than elsewhere.

4. Stringent orders have now been issued impressing upon all Yaloot and Village authorities the desirability of a strict observance of the procedure above mentioned. I have further directed a more frequent examination of stock than hitherto. I have also warned all concerned that any dereliction of duty in this respect will be visited with condign punishment. Occasional enquiries will also be made by the Deputy Commissioner and his Assistants during their tours of inspection,

as

as well as during January etc. All these will in my opinion go a long way to promote the repression of smuggling.

5. Pure betel gardens are not many in this district. As already reported, betel is grown in most gardens along with cocoanut, plantain &c. It is therefore difficult to form an accurate estimate of the quantity of betel which each acre of land is capable of yielding. Then again, this being a dry district, betel does not receive that amount of culture and attention which it does in more favoured districts. In pure betel gardens which are only 57 in number, out of a total of 2895, I understand that each acre contains about 400 trees. Some of those trees do not bear at all while many others yield a nominal crop. Taking good trees with bad, the average outturn may be roughly estimated at one leaf per tree, or between 8 and 9 maunds per acre. This does not of course apply to garden

not

not fully stocked, nor to miners gardens.

I have the honour to be
Sir,
Your most obedient Servant

W Lecumberry
Deputy Commissioner
Childerhoog District

Jcbs

No 177

Kadur District Dy. Comm's Office,
Dated Chitmaglur 9th September 1893.

From

The Deputy Commissioner
Kadur District.

To,

The Chief Secretary to the
Government of Mysore.

Sir,

With reference to Government Proceedings No. 1989-904 / R. J. 254-92 dated 22nd May 1893, making certain observations on the Inpari accounts submitted from several Districts, and calling for a report on certain matters connected therewith, I have the honor to state that the duty per acre in Koppa Taluk, which yields the largest quantity of Inpari, amounts to Rupees 11-4-0 which is less than that of Shimoga District by about Rupees 2/- This small difference is ascertained to be due to comparatively less productiveness of the soil as also to more frequent attacks of "Kole Roga"-

2. The Taluk next in importance in this District as regards the production of Supari is Sudigere. The duty per acre is given as Rs 5-4-0 and it is not strange considering that the soil is ~~far~~ less productive though the quality of arecanut is superior. Further the people in the major part of the Taluk (except in Kalasa Side) are rather indifferent with regard to the Supari cultivation as they pay more attention to Coffee culture.

3. The Supari cultivation about Tarikere, Kadur and Chikmagalur is very small though the duty per acre is pretty high in the 2 former. The duty per acre in the District was thus Rupees 9-0-3, Viz: Rupees 4/- less than that in Shimoga.

4. As regards the points on which a report is called for, I beg to state that (a) The Halat duty is collected at annas 12 on every maund

of arecanut is weighed ... for weighment and report.

(b) The Produce of each garden is estimated annually at the crop season by the Patel and the manegar.

(C) Kulwar Chits are regularly given for all produce removed from the garden.

(d) Allowance for domestic use is made according to different circumstances of the owner of the garden. Some keep areca nuts sufficient to distribute to the Coolies and to the requirements of the number of the inmates of the house. Some arecanut is kept to meet the demand of marriages, &c., likely to be celebrated during the year. Those that grow arecanut in small quantities keep the whole for domestic consumption. Under these circumstances it is difficult to strike any correct average, but it may be approximately estimated at about 5 maunds for every

100 maunds of areca nut grown.

2). The average produce for each acre is generally estimated at about 13 maunds per acre in Malnad, ~~about 10 maunds per acre in Gaut~~ ~~maud about~~ 10 maunds in Maidan, which latter generally consists of mixed gardens.

Owners of gardens are as a rule called upon to account for the difference between the Estimated produce and the quantity on which duty is levied, and Statements are obtained annually from them and forwarded to the District Office from the Amildars, shewing the stock at the end of the previous year, the produce of the year current, the quantity kept for domestic consumption, quantity halatted, and balance at the close of the year current.

5. In spite of these precautions

I have very little doubt that a very large amount of areca nut is smuggled out of the country annually without paying the Government dues, and this is not to be wondered at, considering the class of officials who have the entire management of the collection, namely, the patels and Monegars, both of whom are so ill paid that no reliance can be placed upon them.

6. I am further of opinion that were the present tax abolished many ryots would come forward to cultivate areca nut, who are now holding back on account of the prohibitive tax and the amount of trouble they are put to by the system of enforcing it. I also think that should the present tax be abolished the Government would recoup the loss to a large extent by the extra land taken up for this culture. Should the

Government consider the total abo:
lishment of the tax to be too serious
a loss all at once; I would advocate
the abolishment by degrees, say, one
fourth each year until finally
abolished.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient Servant,

H H Parker

Dep Deputy Commissioner

Kadir District

Camp Office
Report
8/10

(General Serial No. 30.)

CAMP OFFICE OF THE DEWAN OF MYSORE
REG'D. NO. 26
CAMP 1893 Supdt
DATE 9-10-93

52

From

The Superintendent
Kolar District

Section A.K.
File No 59-93
Serial No 3

To

The Chief Secretary to the Dewan of Mysore.

Rec'd & subd
Taken
10/10.

Dated 7th October

Despatched 7th 13

Received

Replies given
Bangalore Supdt
will be awaited for
agenda - Sd
12/10

Enclosures No. 1

General No. 1303
No. 326

Submitted -
Pl. put by & then consider
with a view Not.
Sd
20/10

Government Proceedings No 19897-904 / R.F. 254-92 dated 22nd May 1893 Calling for further report as to the measures adopted to prevent smuggling of Areca nut in the District &c. -

In reference to the above, has the honor to submit herewith copy of a memo of particulars received from the Sub Division Officers

Chikballapur for
Gauribidanoor the only
Taluk in the District
in which Supari trees
are grown to any ap-
preciable extent.
2. The Supari produce
of the other Talooks
being so insignificant
as to be barely suf-
ficient for the domestic
use of the powers
no duty is levied thereon

Yours
Deputy Commissioner

Memo on the collection of duty on tupan in Goribidanur Taluk.

How the Halat duty is now collected

(1) At 12 annas per maund upon the estimated produce of the garden deducting the quantity allowed for domestic use and entered in the Chitta account.

2) Whether the produce of each garden is estimated annually by the Patel of each village?

(2) No; but as the nut is picked the quantity is entered in the Register and the owner's signature obtained.

3) Whether the Kulwar Chits are regularly given for all produce removed from the garden?

(3) The arecanut produce is not large. The produce is not collected and kept in the gardens. Hence Kulwar Chittas are not issued. Intimation is given to the Patel at the time of picking and the quantity is entered

in his book under the signature of the Ryot. In some cases the quantity is entered on actual measurement at the time of collection

(4) At what rate allowance for domestic use is made?

(4) At 2½ seers per head in the family. The rate is fixed.

(5). What is the estimated produce for each acre.

(5). 4 to 5 Imamdo, when the soil is well watered per acre.

(6) whether the owners of gardens are regularly called upon to account for the difference between the estimated produce and the actual Quantity on which duty is collected?

(6) No accurate account is furnished as in the Inahad, but effort is made to arrive at the actual quantity as far as possible.

(Signed). A. Krishnasamy Ayyar
Asst Division Officer
Chittoor

Dated 25th September 93

"Copy"

Deputy Commissioner

(General Serial No. 30.)

1893-94 7249
R 1232

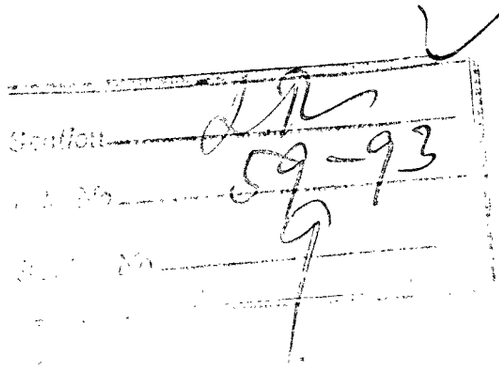
From The Dy Commissioner
Bangalore District

To (53)

The Chief Secretary to the Dewan
of Mysore.

Dated 14th } October 1893
Despatched 16th }

Received



Enclosures No.

General No.
D No. 487.

In reply to Govt. Rc. No. 19897-904 d/22-5-92. SUBJECT. R.F. 254-92

Submits further report re the measures adopted to prevent Supari Smuggling

To
The Supdt Govt Prep no 8433 dt 20/11/93
R 849

Rec'd Bangalore 16/10/93

References (to be entered only in the Dewan's Office).

The Supdt Govt Prep no 8433 dt 20/11/93
R 849

GOVERNMENT ARCHIVES

D. No. 487. Dy Commissioners Office
Bangalore District
Dated 14th October 1893.

To
The Chief Secretary to the
Dewan of Mysore

Sir,

Adverting to the Govern-
ment Proceedings No. 19897-904
R 7254-92
dated 22nd May 1892, calling for
further reports as to the measures
adopted to prevent smuggling
of Suppari, I have the honor to
state that from the reports
recieved from the Amildars
it appears that Suppari
is not largely cultivated in
this District and that practice
of stimulating the produce of
each garden annually and
granting Kulwar Chits re-
gularly for removing produce
from the gardens and calling
upon the owners of gardens to

account for the difference between the estimated produce and the actual quantity on which duty is collected, is observed only in the Talukas of Bangalore and Doddaballapur. But the figures of these Talukas do not bear out the reports of these Amildars, as the total duty per acre is very low. The Amildar of Bangalore reports that the orders issued on the subject are evaded, but there is no authority to punish such evasions.

2 The estimated produce per acre is put down at 3 to 2½ maunds.

3 This District does not contain separate Areca gardens. Scattered Areca trees exist; it is very difficult to estimate the area covered by them. The estimated area returned, as per my letter No

—790 acres to
is not I am afraid, very
reliable. It is not safe to
draw inferences from averages
struck on such an estimate.
The produce of these scattered
trees is mostly consumed by
the growers and is thus free.
The taxable quantity can
only be very small and I
believe, on whole meet our
views. There may be a few
instances of evasion, which
I shall get the Amildars to
stop as far as possible. It
is also noted that when there
are large gardens each or
more owned by one ryot, the
taxable produce is large,
but when several gardens
belonging to different persons
have each a few trees, the
quantity of produce not
liable to the tax must
necessarily rise, reducing
the taxable produce. This

is an important point to be
considered while comparing
the averages of various Districts.

I have the honor to be
Sir
Your most obedient Servant
Edward Mason
for Dy Commissioner

WSH

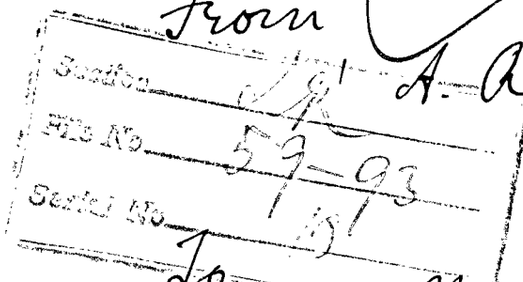
Dy. No. 8035

SOUTH ... MYSORE

No 528.

R 1385 Huppie Dy Commrs Office
Dated Ellpore 8th November
1893.

From



A. Ramaswami Mudaliar Esqre BA.B.
Deputy Commissioner

To

The Chief Secretary to the
Dewan of Mysore

Sir,

Adverting to Government Proceedings No 19897-904 / 254-92 dated 22d May 1893, calling for a report of the measures adopted to prevent smuggling of supari I have the honor to state that there are only a few acres of pure supari gardens in the Mandya Taluk In all the other Taluks supari trees are grown mixed with cocoanut, plantain and other trees - The areca trees are reported to be at various distances from one another but an average distance of 8 yards from tree to tree maybe adopted.

2. In this district which consists mostly of maidan, the rain fall is great deal less than that of the malnad

tracts and the ryots do not generally pay much interest or pains in the cultivation of Supari - In parts of the Yedatore Taluk the ryots are reported to have lately removed the supari trees and converted their gardens into rice lands which shows that rice is considered more lucrative than supari -

3. The practice prevailing in this District in regard to the collection of Supari duty is summarized below:-

Halat or Sayer duty is collected at 1/2 annas a mannd of prepared supari - To query (1-)

No estimate is prepared by the Patail - At harvest season gardeners ask the Patails permission to remove supari fruits from their trees when the Patails give permits for doing so - As soon as the fruits have been removed, the Patails estimate the produce in manns by counting the "Kayi" or fruits - One thousand fruits are

calculated to be required for manufacturing one maund of Supari in Yedatore and a few other Taluks, while 6000 fruits are considered to be required for manufacturing maund in Sringeri Koodlu Narsipur Hunsur and Molvalli Taluks. The number of maunds are then noted by the Patails of the Yedatore and Krishnarajpet Taluks in their registers and the gardeners' signature taken and the duty is collected when the article is brought for sale - no reports are however said to be submitted to the Taluk Cutcherry. This practice does not obtain in other Taluks where no registers can be regularly kept as many of the Patails are illiterate.

Query (3). No Kuluvar chits are issued for removal of the produce from gardens but only Ashadari chits are issued after collection of duty upon the quantity sold or exported.

(4). For domestic use, 10 or 12 seers

are allowed to each member of the family of the owner in some of the Talukhs while in others, what the Patails consider as fair is allowed-

In a good season the average Query (5)
outturn is estimated at 5 or 6 maunds an acre-

In case of suspicion that supari (6)
has been removed without payment of duty, the Patail or Shanbhoug makes an enquiry in the matter and recovers the duty on the quantity so found to have been removed making a report of the same to the amildar.

The Patails, Shanbougues and (7).
Sheikdars are allowed a Commission of 5 per Cent on the duty both in Government and Enam villages - Where the village officials themselves are supari growers or are otherwise interested in evading or conniving at evasion of the said duty, the Sheikdars and other higher officials of the

Taluk have to exercise a careful supervision. The course suggested in clauses 4 and 6 of para 3 appears best suited to check smuggling, and this will be hereafter more rigidly enjoined.

4. In explanation of the comparatively very insignificant income from this District, it is reported that the greater part of the produce of supari gardens is retained for house consumption in most of the Taluks of this District. I am not however quite satisfied with the explanation and shall take steps to have greater care and vigilance exercised in its collection.

I have the honor to be
Sir,
Your most Obed't Servant

Deputy Commissioner
Mysore District

Compd.
W.H.

53

L/L

59-93

57

Genl Rec 11

1

Read the following

Letter from the Dy Com of Customs dy 14 Octr 93. No. 487

Do " of Salar dy 7 Octr 1893 No 1303-326

Do of Secretary dy 16 Augt 1893 No 139

Press all the letters L&P

Do " of Mysore 8 Nov 1893 No 528.

Do " Hassan 19 Augt 93 No 142

Do of Kadur 9 Sept 93 No 177

Sept 93 No 155

order thereon No 10149-56

AJ 254-93

The establishments given dy 28/12/93 by the Dy Comrs do not satisfactorily account for the large differences in the amount of duty collected in the several ~~each~~ Districts. The Dy Comrs are requested to do their best for the prevention of smuggling.

2. The number of Supari gardens in each Dt shewn be ~~dy~~ stated

In order that it may seem that
the allowance made for home consumption
accounts for the small duty collected
in the several Districts.—

3— There must be a fixed scale of
allowance for home consumption, &
it ought not to vary at the discretion
of the Patails & Canildars— Two
measures of 40 seers each per family of
10 individuals appears adequate—
Dy Comrs are however at liberty to fix
such rate as they think proper with
reference to the habits of the people in
their Districts.—

4. The Dy Comr of Shimoga is requested
to draw up a detailed Memo of the procedure
adopted in his Districts for the examination
of the Supari produce & the collection of duty &
submit the same to Govt in view to its
being circulated among the other Dys for
adoption with the requisite modifications.

5 With reference to the remarks of
the Dy Comr of Dharwar in para 4

I have letter read above from the Govt observer, the duty collected in 1890-91 on the Dl with reference to which the Govt passed their remarks, was more & not less than the average collections on the Dl.

Chief
23/12/93

1883-84	38417
84-85	51833
85-86	36509
86-87	40457
† 87-88	47607
88-89	46950
89-90	52821
90-91	58754
Avge	46669

† Taken from Mathadaan's report, verify Asst. Commr.

H.
23/12

Draft

Proceedings of the Government of His Highness the Maharaja of Mysore, (Revenue),—dated 23rd December 1893.

READ THE FOLLOWING:—

Letter from the Deputy Commissioner of Bangalore, dated 14th October 1893, No. 487.

Adverting to the Government Proceedings, No. 19897-904—R. F. 254-92, dated 22nd May 1893, calling for further report as to the measures adopted to prevent smuggling of supari, I have the honor to state that from the reports received from the Amildars, it appears that supari is not largely cultivated in this District and that the practice of estimating the produce of each garden annually and granting *Kulwar Chits* regularly for removing produce from the gardens and calling upon the owners of gardens to account for the difference between the estimated produce and the actual quantity on which duty is collected, is observed only in the Taluks of Bangalore and Dodballapur. But the figures of these Taluks do not bear out the reports of these Amildars, as the Halat duty per acre is very low. The Amildar of Magadi reports that the orders issued on the subject are evaded, but there is no authority to punish such evasions.

2. The estimated produce per acre is put down at 3 to 21½ maunds.

3. This District does not contain separate *supari* gardens. Scattered supari trees exist: it is very difficult to estimate the area covered by them. The estimated area returned as per my letter No. 796, dated 16th February 1893, is not I am afraid, very reliable. It is not safe to draw inferences from averages struck on such an estimate. The produce of these scattered trees is mostly consumed by the growers and is thus free. The taxable quantity can only be very small and I believe, on whole we get our dues. There may be a few instances of evasion, which I shall get the Amildars to stop as far as possible. It is to be noted that when there are large gardens each or more owned by one raiyat, the taxable produce is large, but when several gardens belonging to different persons have each a few trees, the quantity of produce not liable to the tax must necessarily rise, reducing the taxable produce. This is an important point to be considered while comparing the averages of various Districts.

Letter from the Deputy Commissioner of Kolar, dated 7th October 1893, No. 1303—326.

Government Proceedings No. 19897-904—R. F. 254-92, dated 22nd May 1893, calling for further report as to the measures adopted to prevent smuggling of arecanut in the District, &c.

With reference to the above, has the honor to submit herewith copy of a Memo of particulars received from the Sub-Division Officer, Chikballapur, for Goribidnur, the only Taluk in the District in which supari trees are grown to any appreciable extent.

2. The Supari produce of the other Taluks being so insignificant as to be barely sufficient even for the domestic use of the growers, no duty is levied thereon.

Memo on the Collection of duty on Supari in Goribidnur Taluk.

(1) How the Halat duty is now collected.

(1.) At 12 annas per maund upon the estimated produce of the garden deducting the quantity allowed for domestic use and entered in the Chitta account.

(2) Whether the produce of each garden is estimated annually by the Patel of each village?

(2.) No; but as the nut is picked the quantity is entered in the Register and the owner's signature obtained.

(3) Whether the *Kulwar Chits* are regularly given for all produce removed from the garden?

(3.) The arecanut produce is not large. The produce is not collected and kept in the gardens. Hence *Kulwar Chittas* are not issued. Intimation is given to the Patel at the time of picking and the quantity is entered in his book under the signature of the raiyat. In some cases the quantity is entered on actual measurement at the time of collection.

(4) At what rate allowance for domestic use is made?

(4.) At 2½ seers per head in the family. No rate is fixed.

(5) What is the estimated produce for each acre?

(5.) Four to five maunds, when the soil is well watered, per acre.

(6) Whether the owners of gardens are regularly called upon to account for the difference between the estimated produce and quantity on which duty is collected?

(6.) No accurate account is furnished as in the Malnad, but effort is made to arrive at the actual quantity as far as possible.

Letter from the Deputy Commissioner of Tumkur, dated 15th August 1893, No. 139.

With reference to para 2 of Government Order No. 19897-904—R. F. 254-92, of the 22nd May 1893, calling for a report on the mode of collecting the Halat duty on arecanut and the yield of the nut per acre, I have the honor to report as follows :—

2. Firstly in regard to the collection of the duty. In about the month of September in each year, the harvest of the areca gardens begins. The ripe bunches of areca are plucked off, the fruits are thereafter separated from the bunches and in the end nut is prepared. This harvest ordinarily continues to the end of December and in exceptional years extends over January too.

3. Just before the harvest season, the Sayer Officials of the Hobli inspect every areca garden, estimate the probable yield of arecanut for the year and prepare a Register of such estimates for each garden in each village. This Register will be kept by the Patel for his future reference.

4. Before plucking the bunches of the areca trees, the owner of the garden informs the Patel of his village of his intention to do so and asks for a permit therefor. The Patel issues a permit in a printed form (a sample of which is enclosed) warning the gardener at the same time that he should not remove the produce from the garden before it is actually measured by him (the Patel).

5. On the authority of this permit the gardener plucks the areca bunches and after separating the fruits from them sends information to the Patel to come and measure the fruits. The Patel goes to the garden, measures the fruits by kandis, estimates thereby the probable yield of the nut, and after entering all these details in the permit already given gives leave to the gardener to prepare the nut and return the permit after the prepared nut is finally weighed and a regular Patta issued in its stead.

6. Finally when the nut is prepared, it is once more weighed by the Patel and the Sayer Officials and the total quantity of the actual yield is entered in a patta which is given over to the gardener and the original permit taken back from him.

7. A Register called the *Kulwar* Dastan book showing the quantity of the nut with each gardener is kept with the village Patel and a copy thereof in the Taluk Cutcherry. In it the quantity arrived at as above is added to the balance at the end of the previous year, and then the quantity allowed for home consumption during the year is deducted, the gardener being accountable for the duty on the net balance.

8. Duty at the rate of 12 annas per maund (with local cess at one anna per rupee of duty) is levied as the nut is sold by the raiyat and the quantity sold deducted in the said Register. This duty is generally paid by the purchaser. The stock on hand is examined now and then and the gardener made accountable for the duty on the quantity found wanting according to the Register.

9. For the household consumption of the gardeners, 3 maunds per year per 10 head are on average said to be a fair allowance, but on account of marriages and such other celebrations in the family the allowance has to be raised according to circumstances. The average consumption besides varies according to the habits of the garden owners. The Vakkaliga is generally habituated to chew betel-leaves and nut oftener in a day than the Brahmin or the Vaisya. Such habits are also considered in allowing the quantity for household consumption. Years without celebrations of marriages, &c., are generally scarce in the families of native gardeners. Hence the average allowance for home consumption comes to 5 maunds a year per 10 head.

10. Secondly with regard to the average yield of the nut per acre. Generally on one acre of land about 400 areca trees are planted. If all of them are good, young, healthy, bearing trees, the yield may be good. But there are various circumstances which influence the yield such as :—

(*a*) the fertility or otherwise of the soil,

(*b*) the average rain-fall during the year,

(*c*) the healthy condition of the trees,

(*d*) the number of actually bearing trees,

(*e*) the industrious and careful habit of the gardener,

(*f*) the source of irrigation, and

(*g*) the aptitude of the local people for garden cultivation and their resources.

11. The fertility of the soil depends upon its constituents. Red soil mixed with lime stone is believed to be the best suited for the growth of the areca trees, as the stem will there be

thick, the branches spreading and the bunches more numerous and fuller than elsewhere. The average yield per acre of such land with full blown trees may be about 40 maunds. In sandy soil the trees are thin and tall and the bunches less in number and the fruits small. There the yield per acre is less and may be about 25 maunds per acre, if all the trees are bearing. In saltish and clayey soils the trees will be stunted, and there the average yield is still less and may be about 15 maunds per acre if all the trees are bearing. Heavy rain-fall soon after the blossom (*i. e.*, after the opening of the flower known as Hombale) causes the tender grains to fall down and similarly continuous rain makes the soil retain too much moisture and thereby causes the tender fruits to fall down. Thus for the areca trees rain-fall will have to be both timely and moderate. This condition is believed to affect the yield to a very great extent. Again the disease known as the "*Koleroga*" often attacks the tree and thus damages the crop. A land on a good level getting moist when irrigated and gradually drying of itself is believed to be the one best suited for areca gardens. If there be too much moisture on the surface at any one time or if the land be always moist, the trees will not be healthy. Besides whatever may be the area of an areca garden, the produce depends upon the number of the actually fruit bearing trees in it rather than on the total number of them. And even among the bearing trees the yield varies according to their age. Again during dire famine of 1876-77 and 1877-78 most of the areca trees died and several gardens were considerably denuded of them. This circumstance also influences the average yield per acre at present. Speaking roughly it may be said that on an average the proportion of fruit bearing trees in the gardens of this District is much less than in the Malnad which was less affected during the said famine. Further the yield of the areca crop depends as above stated upon the care bestowed upon the garden. If the digging, manuring, and weeding operations are carried on at the proper seasons, the garden improves and if these be neglected, the yield will be less as a matter of course. People in this District take to dry cultivation first, then to wet crop and lastly to garden cultivation; the latter requiring greater industry and a steady source of irrigation which the maidan raiyat often lacks in. Trees irrigated by tank and well water yield better crop than those irrigated by either of the two. Again a garden of purely areca trees yields more than if the trees are interspersed with plantain or other trees. Plantain trees are generally planted amidst areca trees in this District and they by their nature absorb larger quantity of moisture, deprive the soil of its productive materials and take up the manure sooner for their growth and leave a small portion of it for the areca trees. As the areca produce is to be had only once in a year and the raiyat has to find other means of constant yield in his garden, he plants plantain trees in it. Considering all these circumstances it is believed that on an average 15 maunds per acre is a fair return here.

12. Thirdly in regard to the apprehension that the nut is smuggled to wade the payment of the duty. Of course the persons concerned would try their best to avoid the duty, but the quantity entered against them in the Registers referred to has to be accounted for, by them. This makes the evasion difficult and if the higher Officers occasionally look into this matter their subs: (subordinates) taking the cue from them will take stock now and then and bring the defaulter to book. The Amildars have been requested to show earnestness in this matter.

13. Lastly in regard to the comparison made in the order under reply, of the realizations from this halat duty in the different Districts, I beg leave to state that the data on which comparison has been made and inference drawn do not to my humble thinking seem to be such as to afford a true basis therefor. The income of only one year (1890-91) has been taken and an average struck on the total area supposed to be covered with the areca trees. It does not I think happen that the whole of the produce of a year is sold in that year, nor does every acre containing the areca trees yield every year. In some of the gardens the trees may be young and immature, while in others they may be old and past bearing. Some gardeners may find a good sale and dispose of the whole of the stock, while others may retain the stock on hand in expectation of getting better rates.

14. In conclusion I beg leave to submit that this halat duty is a considerable nuisance to the raiyat. It affords ample opportunity to worry him in various ways and in fact unscrupulous persons may even turn this taxation into an engine of oppression. The sooner therefore it is done away with the better I think. If the present land tax on the areca gardens is considered an inadequate return to Government and if the halat duty which is levied in addition thereto should be replaced, it is by far better to enhance the land tax proportionately and relieve the raiyat of the constant vexatious interference of the Government servants, firstly with his harvest operations, secondly with his dealings with his customers and thirdly with his stock on hand.

Letter from the Deputy Commissioner of Mysore, dated 8th November 1893, No. 528.

Adverting to Government Proceedings No. 19897-904—254-92, dated 22nd May 1893, calling for a report of the measures adopted to prevent smuggling of supari, I have the honor to state that there are only a few acres of pure supari gardens in the Mandya Taluk. In all the other Taluks supari trees are grown mixed with cocoanut, plantain and other trees. The areca trees are reported to be at various distances from one another but an average of distance of 8 yards from tree to tree may be adopted.

Proceedings of the Government of His Highness the Maharaja of Mysore, (Revenue),—dated 23rd December 1893.

2. In this District which consists mostly of Maidan, the rain-fall is a great deal less than that of the Malnad tracts and the raiyats do not generally pay much interest or pains in the cultivation of supari. In parts of the Yedatore Taluk, the raiyats are reported to have lately removed the supari trees and converted their gardens into rice lands which shows that rice is considered more lucrative than supari.

3. The practice prevailing in this District in regard to the collection of supari duty is summarized below:—

To query (1) Halat or Sayer duty is collected at 12 annas a maund of prepared supari.

To query (2) No estimate is prepared by the Patel. At harvest season gardeners ask the Patel's permission to remove supari fruits from their trees when the Patels give permits for doing so. As soon as the fruits have been removed, the Patels estimate the produce in maunds by counting the "Kayi" or fruits. 1,000 fruits are calculated to be required for manufacturing one maund of supari in Yedatore and a few other Taluks, while six thousand fruits are considered to be required for manufacturing one maund in Tirumakudlu-Narsipur, Mandya and Malvalli Taluks. The number of maunds are then noted by the Patels of the Yedatore and Krishnarajpete Taluks in their registers, and the gardeners' signature taken and the duty is collected when the article is brought for sale. No reports are however said to be submitted to the Taluk Cutcherry. This practice does not obtain in other Taluks where no registers can be regularly kept as many of the Patels are illiterate.

To query (3) No Kulwar Chits are issued for removal of the produce from gardens but only Rahadari chits are issued after collection of duty upon the quantity sold or exported.

To query (4) For domestic use 10 or 12 seers are allowed to each member of the family of the owner in some of the Taluks, while in others, what the Patels consider as fair is allowed.

To query (5) In a good season, the average out-turn is estimated at 5 or 6 maunds an acre.

To query (6) In case of suspicion that supari has been removed without payment of duty, the Patel or Shanbhog makes an enquiry in the matter and recovers the duty on the quantity so found to have been removed, making a report of the same to the Amildar.

To query (7) The Patels, Shanbhogs and Shekdars are allowed a commission of 5 per cent on the duty both in Government and Inam villages. Where the village officials themselves are supari growers or are otherwise interested in evading or conniving at evasion of Halat duty, the Shekdars and other higher officials of the Taluk have to exercise a careful supervision. The course suggested in clauses 4 and 6 of para 3 appears best suited to check smuggling, and this will be hereafter more rigidly enjoined.

4. In explanation of the comparatively very insignificant income from this District, it is reported that the greater part of the produce of supari gardens is retained for house consumption in most of the Taluks of this District. I am not however quite satisfied with the explanation and shall take steps to have greater care and vigilance exercised in its collection.

Letter from the Deputy Commissioner of Hassan, dated 19th August 1893, No. 142.

With reference to Government Proceedings No. 19897-904—R. F. 254-92 of the 22nd May last, calling for further report on certain points in connection with supari and as to the measures adopted to prevent smuggling, I have the honor to state with reference to the queries contained in para 2 as follows:—

(1). The Halat duty is now collected through the agency of Patels, Shanbhogs and Shekdars.

(2). The produce of each garden is estimated annually by the Patel of each village and Kulwar chits are granted for all produce removed from the garden and the owners of garden are called upon to account for the difference between the estimated produce and the actual quantity on which duty is collected in the Nagar Division. This practice did not exist in this District and with a view to introduce it Circular Orders were issued to all the Amildars and most of them have submitted Dasthan Pattis. It cannot however be stated that those pattis are quite in accordance with the order issued and steps are taken to gradually enforce the system though complete success cannot be hoped for, for want of proper establishment as referred to below. There is no fixed rate according to which allowance is made for domestic use, the quantity allowed depending upon the number of household members of the supari growers

and their general requirements. The average quantity that has been allowed till now amounts to about 32 per cent of the quantity produced. The estimated produce for each acre varies from one maund and two seers to three maunds and nineteen seers.

2. From the enclosed statement it will be observed that the supari duty during the past six years has been fluctuating, there is a decrease for two years, then an increase for next two years and again a decrease. Due notice was taken of these variations and the fact also mentioned in the administration reports of the respective years, extracts from which are enclosed for ready reference.

3. I watched to see what was possible to be done by warning the village officials and Shekdars to a sense of their duty in this respect. A few of the copies of circular orders issued from time to time and also of orders issued reviewing the Sayer monthly accounts received from the Taluks are also forwarded herewith for your information, from which you will be pleased to observe that persevering efforts are being made to secure the Government revenue in this direction, though there was improvement for some time, it has a tendency to go down and I suspect that the village officers connive at smuggling and Shekdars have not sufficient time to devote to this. I think the revenue under this source admits of greater expansion under proper supervision, to effect which it would be better if there was a separate agency as in the Districts of Shimoga, Kadur and Tumkur.

Extracts from Administration reports,—(*vide* para 2 of the Deputy Commissioner's letter read above).

* * * * * * * *

Extract from the Administration Report for the year 1887-88.

Sayer.—The falling off in the Revenue under this head in the several Taluks of the District alike was a matter for serious consideration, though it may have been partly due to diminished crop. The Taluk authorities have been enjoined to pay stricter attention to prevent all smuggling by constant supervision and check of Rahadaris issued and returned.

* * * *

Extract from the Administration Report for the year 1888-89.

Sayer.—The increase in this item of Rs. 228—3—8 is not as satisfactory as was anticipated. In spite of repeated orders issued to the Taluk authorities enjoining on them the necessity of bestowing stricter attention to prevent smuggling, the Amildars of Hassan and Arkalgud Taluks have not been successful in putting it down. The increase in the duty on supari in the Arsikere Taluk is creditable to the Amildar. The remaining Taluks do not produce supari largely. The other items which only contribute a portion to the Sayer Revenue need no special comment here.

* * * *

Extract from the Administration Report for the year 1889-90.

Sayer.—The increase of Rs. 794 under this head is chiefly due to supari in which Rs. 722 in round figures were realized more than in the previous year. Though the result of the year appears to be an improvement owing to the active measures adopted in making the Amildars alive against smuggling, yet there is much evasion in payment of duty which has to be effectually checked.

* * * *

Extract from the Administration Report for the year 1891-92.

Sayer.—The revenue from Sayer has decreased during the year under report as compared with the previous year by Rs. 679—4—3. It is satisfactory to note that in the Taluk of Arkalgud the Sayer revenue has increased over the year previous which shows that the Taluk authorities guarded against smuggling. In other Taluks no improvement is visible and needful steps will be taken to foster the source of revenue.

The fall in Sayer revenue is not an indication of any short areca crop. But the establishment for the levy of the Sayer and for prevention of smuggling does not separately exist in this District and the work in this Department of Patels and Shanbhogs shows results only as they are steadily goaded to be alert and active. The figures for 1887-88 (Rs. 3,038—4—7) 1888-89 (Rs. 3,266—8—3) 1889-90 (Rs. 4,061—5—1) and 1890-91 (Rs. 5,506—13—11) given below show better results than in this year. It is desirable to make more satisfactory arrangements to prevent loss of revenue under this head. The matter will be laid separately before Government in due course.

Proceedings of the Government of His Highness the Maharaja of Mysore, (Revenue),—dated 23rd December 1893.

"EXTRACTS."

Statement showing the Area of Supari Plantation together with the amount of duty realized for the six years ending 1891-92 of the Hassan District.

No.	Years.	Extent of supari plantation.		Duty realized.			Duty per acre.			Remarks.
		Acres.	Guntas.	Rs.	A.	P.	Rs.	A.	P.	
1	1886-87	5,331	32	2,678	9	8	0	8	0	
2	1887-88	5,322	14	2,271	3	1	0	6	9	
3	1888-89	5,320	4	2,246	1	6	0	6	9	
4	1889-90	5,326	11	2,961	5	11	0	8	10	
5	1890-91	5,312	17	4,254	0	5	0	12	9	
6	1891-92	5,334	28	3,345	7	11	0	10	0	

Letter from the Deputy Commissioner of Kadur, dated 9th September 1893, No. 177.

With reference to Government Proceedings No. 19897-904—R. F. 254-92, dated 22nd May 1893, making certain observations on the supari accounts submitted from several Districts and calling for a report on certain matters connected therewith, I have the honor to state that the duty per acre in Koppa Taluk which yields the largest quantity of supari, amounts to Rs. 11—4—0 which is less than that of Shimoga District by about Rs. 2. This small difference is ascertained to be due to comparatively less productiveness of the soil as also to more frequent attacks of "Kole Roga."

2. The Taluk next in importance in this District as regards the production of supari is Mudgere. The duty per acre is given as Rs. 5—4—0 and it is not strange considering that the soil is far less productive though the quality of arecanut is superior. Further the people in major part of the Taluk (except in Kalasa side) are rather indifferent with regard to the supari cultivation as they pay more attention to coffee culture.

3. The supari cultivation about Tarikere, Kadur and Chikmagalur is very small though the duty per acre is pretty high in the 2 former. The duty per acre in the District was thus Rs. 9—0—3, *viz.*, Rs. 4 less than that in Shimoga.

4. As regards the points on which a report is called for, I beg to state that—

(*a*) The Halat duty is collected at annas 12 on every maund of arecanut brought to kattes for weighment and export.

(*b*) The produce of each garden is estimated annually at the crop season by the Patel and the Manegar.

(*c*) Kulwar chits are regularly given for all produce removed from the garden.

(*d*) Allowance for domestic use is made according to different circumstances of the owner of the garden. Some keep arecanuts sufficient to distribute to the coolies and to the requirements of the number of the inmates of the house. Some arecanut is kept to meet the demand of marriages, &c., likely to be celebrated during the year. Those that grow arecanut in small quantities keep the whole for domestic consumption. Under these circumstances, it is difficult to strike any correct average, but it may be approximately estimated at about 5 maunds for every 100 maunds of arecanut grown.

(*e*) The average produce for each acre is generally estimated at about 13 maunds per acre in Malnad and about 10 maunds in Maidan, which latter generally consists of mixed gardens.

(*f*) Owners of gardens are as a rule called upon to account for the difference between the estimated produce and the quantity on which duty is levied and statements are obtained annually from them and forwarded to the District office from the Amildars, showing the stock at the end of the previous year, the produce of the year current, the quantity kept for domestic consumption, quantity halatted, and balance at the close of the year current.

5. In spite of these precautions, I have very little doubt that a very large amount of arecanut is smuggled out of the country annually without paying the Government dues, and this is not to be wondered at, considering the class of officials who have the entire management

of the collection, namely, the Patels and Managars both of whom are so ill paid that no reliance can be placed upon them.

6. I am further of opinion that were the present tax abolished, many raiyats would come forward to cultivate arecanut, who are now holding back on account of the prohibitive tax and the amount of trouble they are put to by the system of enforcing it. I also think that should the present tax be abolished, the Government would recoup the loss to a large extent by the extra land taken up for this culture. Should the Government consider the total abolishment of the tax to be too serious a loss all at once, I would advocate the abolishment by degrees, say, one-fourth each year until finally abolished.

Letter from the Deputy Commissioner of Chitaldroog, dated 5th September 1893, No. 155.

With reference to the Proceedings of Government No. 19897-904—R. F. 254-92, dated 22nd May last, calling for a report on certain points relating to the prevention of supari smuggling, I have the honor to state that from the enquiries which I have personally instituted during my tours of inspection as well as from the reports which I have received from the Amildars and Deputy Amildars under me, I am inclined to believe that supari smuggling on any extensive scale is not carried on in this District.

2. The *modus operandi* in all the Taluks of this District is this :—As soon as the crop is ripe for gathering, the owner of the garden sends intimation of this fact to the Patel. In some places the Patel submits a report to the Shekdar or to the Taluk Cutcherry while in others he does not. On the day fixed for harvesting the crop, the Patel goes to the garden, sometimes accompanied by the Shekdar or a Taluk official, and at other times alone. If supari has to be cut simultaneously in more gardens than one, (this happens very rarely) the Patel visits them one after another or deputes his subordinate village servants to such of them as he cannot himself visit. After the nut is gathered, it is measured in a basket kept for the purpose, and the capacity of which is recognized by all concerned. The proportion of prepared supari to the quantity of produce gathered, has likewise been ascertained by actual test. The produce realized is accordingly entered in a book kept by the Patel. A Kulwar chit is issued to the raiyat before the removal of the crop from his garden. From the total quantity is deducted an allowance for domestic use at varying rates, none of which exceeds five seers per head. The rest is entered against the raiyat's name and he becomes accountable for it. On sales and exports, duty is levied at 12 annas a maund. The *dastan* in the raiyat's possession is accordingly checked by the Taluk authorities.

3. Where the procedure described above is strictly followed, the chances of successful smuggling are reduced to a minimum. It is possible that some laxity does exist in remote places and that consequently facilities for allowing supari to pass without payment of duty are greater there than elsewhere.

4. Stringent orders have now been issued impressing upon all Taluk and village authorities the desirability of a strict observance of the procedure above mentioned. I have further directed a more frequent examination of stock than hitherto. I have also warned all concerned that any dereliction of duty in this respect will be visited with condign punishment. Occasional enquiries will also be made by the Deputy Commissioner and his Assistants during their tours of inspection, as well as during Jamabandi. All these will in my opinion go a long way to promote the repression of smuggling.

5. Pure supari gardens are not many in this District. As already reported, supari is grown in most gardens along with cocoanut, plantain, &c. It is therefore difficult to form an accurate estimate of the quantity of supari which each acre of land is capable of yielding. Then again, this being a dry District, supari does not receive that amount of culture and attention which it does in more favored Districts. In pure supari gardens which are only 57 in number out of a total of 2,895, I understand that each acre contains about 400 trees. Some of those trees do not bear at all, while many others yield a nominal crop. Taking good trees with bad, the average out-turn may be roughly estimated at one seer per tree, or between 8 and 9 maunds per acre. This does not of course apply to gardens not fully stocked nor to mixed gardens.

No. 10149-56—R. F. 254-92, DATED, BANGALORE, 23RD DECEMBER 1893.

ORDER THEREON.—The explanations given by the Deputy Commissioners do not satisfactorily account for the large differences in the amount of duty collected in the several Districts. The Deputy Commissioners are requested to do their best for the prevention of smuggling.

2. The number of supari gardens in each District should be stated in order that it may be seen, how far the allowance made for home consumption accounts for the small amount of duty collected in the several Districts.

3. There must be a fixed rate of allowance for home consumption, and it ought not to vary at the discretion of the Patels and Amildars. Two maunds of 40 seers each per family of 10 individuals appears adequate. Deputy Commissioners are however at liberty to fix such rate as they think proper with reference to the habits of the people in their Districts.

4. The Deputy Commissioner of Shimoga is requested to draw up a detailed Memo of the procedure adopted in his District for the examination of the supari produce and the collection of duty and submit the same to Government in view to its being circulated among the other Districts for adoption with the requisite modifications.

The detailed memo read from DC Shimoga was submitted by Dewan Bahadur on 12/4/95 at Ooty.

5. With reference to the remark of the Deputy Commissioner of Tumkur in para 13 of his letter read above, the Government observe, that the duty collected in 1890-91 in his District with reference to which the Government passed their remarks, was more and not less than the average collections* in his District.

1883-84	... 38,417
1884-85	... 51,833
1885-86	... 36,509
1886-87	... 40,457
1887-88	... 47,607
1888-89	... 46,950
1889-90	... 52,821
1890-91	... 58,754
Average...	46,669

T. ANANDA ROW,
Chief Secretary.

To—The Deputy Commissioners of Districts.

Exd.—K.S.